1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Metallurgical Cluster, Jaipur	Orissa	62.50	47.00	15.66
20.	Textiles cluster, Ludhiana	Punjab	17.19	12.69	4.21
21.	Marble Cluster, Kishangarh	Rajasthan	36.80	27.60	9.20
22.	Auto Cluster, Pitampura	Madhya Pradesh	73.29	49.94	16.65
23.	Coir Cluster	Kerala	56.80	42.60	14.20
24.	Textile Cluster, Panipat	Haryana	54.53	40.90	13.63
25.	Ispat Bhoomi Cluster, Raipur.	Chattisgarh	54.11	29.87	-Nil-
26.	Leather Cluster, Kanpur.	Uttar pradesh	27.34	9.75	1.95
	GRAND TOTAL:		1709.11	951.47	280.71

Ratification of Safta

331. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had ratified the SAFTA which comes into effect from 1st January this year;

(b) if so, whether Government had Consulted the States before ratifying this agreement;

(c) if so, the response of various State Governments in this agreement;

(d) whether India is scaling down the customs duties to the level of 0-5 per cent by 2013 as per the present agreement;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether India is also providing certain concessions to the four least developed countries which includes a compensation mechanism for the revenue loss that they may incur owing to the cut in their import duties; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes Sir, The Government has already ratified the SAFTA which comes into effect from 1st January, 2006, However, the instruments of ratification are being sent to the SAARC Secretariat shortly.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) In terms of the phased Trade Liberalization Programme under the Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), in two years, non-Least Developed Contracting States (LDCS) (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal) will bring them down from existing level to 30% NLDCs will then bring down tariffs from 20% to 0-5% in 5 Years (Sri Lanka 6 years), while LDCs will do so in 8 years. In view of different budget period of Member States, all Member States except Nepal would effect customs notification for TLP with effect from 1st July 2006; Nepal will notify it from 1st August 2006 with the condition that the TLP for the first two years shall be completed by 31st December 2007.

(f) Yes Sir.

(g) The SAFTA provides for certain concessions to LDCs and India is committed to comply with these as a signatory to the SAFTA Agreement, the details are briefly indicated below:

a. Apart from the general condition in the SAFTA Rules of Origin for giving tariff concession which prescribes the twin criteria of Change of Tariff Heading (CTH) at four digit Harmonized Coding System (HS) and value content of 40% (30% for LDCs) product specific rules for 191 tariff lines have been prescribed for LDCs given their limited base for natural resources and undiviersified industrial structure.

b. India has kept two Sensitive Lists under SAFTA one for NLDCs with 884 items and a shorter list with 762 items for LDCs.

c. NLDCs would provide technical assistance to LDCs in agreed areas.

d. Mechanism for Compensation of Revenue Loss (MCRL) by the NLDCs with following salient features:

(i) The compensation of LDCs, except to Maldives, to be available for four years; to Maldives it would be for six years.

(ii) The compensation shall be in the form of grant in US dollar.

(iii) The compensation shall be subject to a cap of 1%,1%,5% and 3% of customs revenue collected on non-sensitive items under bilateral trade in the base year, i.e. average of 2004 and 2005.

(iv) The compensation shall be administered by the Committee of Experts as per the Administrative Arrangement prescribed in the Annex to the MCRL Agreement.

India would also offer to Bangladesh a Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) of 8 million pieces of garments; with the condition that 3 million pieces are exported to India provided fabrics are sourced from India, another 3 million pieces provided fabrics are either of Indian or Bangladeshi origin and 2 million pieces with any condition on sourcing.

Opening of Attari-Wagha Border for trade on permanent basis

332. SHRI RAMA MUNNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India requested the Government of Pakistan for opening up of Attari-Wagha Border for trade between the two countries on permanent basis;

(b) whether the issue was raised at the Secretary-level discussions held recently; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) During the Commerce Secretary-level discussions within the framework of the Composite dialogue between India and Pakistan held in New Delhi in August 2005, the Indian side requested to open the land route at Attari-Wagah Land Customs Stations on a permanent basis for enhancing the bilateral trade, and the Pakistan side noted this request.

Protest against duty free import of vanaspathi

333. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been protest from edible oil industry against duty